GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2969
ANSWERED ON:20.03.2017
Fake Universities
Jaunpuria Shri Sukhbir Singh

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has noticed that there are many fake universities in which students are studying in the country;
(b) if so, the number of cases that came to light during the last three years;
(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard; and
(d) the details of remedial measures taken by the Government including issuing notices against fake universities to caution people?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(DR. MAHENDRA NATH PANDEY)
(a) & (b): Yes Madam. University Grants Commission (UGC) has identified 23 fake universities, the list of which is available on its website at www.ugc.ac.in. During the last three years, two fake universities namely (i) Viswakarma Open University for Self-Employment", India, Rozgar Sewasadan, 672, Sanjay Enclave, Opp. GTK DEPOT, Delhi-110033; and (ii) North Orissa University of Agriculture & Technology Baripada, Distt. Mayubhanj, Orissa have come into notice of UGC.
(c) & (d): The Ministry vide its D.O. letter No. 12-3/2015/U3A dated 21st July, 2015 requested the Chief Secretaries of respective State Governments to investigate the matter and register complaints in police station against these fake universities. It has also been requested to initiate prosecution against those who are involved in defrauding and cheating students by misrepresenting themselves as "Universities" awarding degrees with their name.
Apart from above, the following action has been taken to warn people against such universities:
(i) For the awareness of general public/students/parents, the UGC has put up the list of fake universities on its website i.e. www.ugc.ac.in. All self-styled unrecognized and unapproved institutions are cautioned that running of Undergraduate and Postgraduate degree courses and giving misleading advertisements shall attract severe action under the provisions of appropriate laws including the UGC Act and the Indian Penal Code, etc.
(ii) At the beginning of every academic session, the UGC issues Press Release and Public Notice and state-wise list of fake universities in the country in national dailies and Newspapers in Hindi and English to warn the aspiring students, guardians and the public at large not to take admission in the courses run by the self-styled, unauthorized fake universities/institution of higher education functioning in different parts of the country.